

Message Text

PAGE 01 KABUL 05277 191046Z

16

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 126959

O 190910Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4254

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T KABUL 5277

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AF

SUBJ: NEW REGIME'S CONCERN WITH NEIGHBORS

REF: KABUL 5256

1. LATE AFTERNOON JULY 18, I RECEIVED MFA PROTOCOL OFFICER ASEFI TO LEARN THAT ACTING DEPFONMIN DR WAHED KARIM WANTED TO SEE ME URGENTLY AT 6 PM. I EXPLAINED (IN VIEW PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED RECOGNITION DIFFICULTY) THAT I COULD NOT SEE DR KARIM OFFICIALLY, BUT AGREED TO AN INFORMAL MEETING.

2. I MET KARIM AT MFA. HE LOOKED HARASSED, HAVING JUST COME FROM A MEETING WITH MR DAUD. I MADE FORMAL DISCLAIMER THAT MY PRESENCE IMPLIED NO POSITION REGARDING RECOGNITION ISSUE. HOWEVER, I STRESSED THAT THIS STATEMENT CARRIED NO PARTICULAR IMPLICATION WITH REGARD TO AFGHANISTAN, EXPLAINING THAT THIS WAS USG'S WORLDWIDE POLICY REGARDING RECOGNITION. KARIM APPEARED TO TAKE THIS EXPLANATION IN STRIDE.

3. KARIM EXPLAINED THAT HE, TOO, WAS SPEAKING INFORMALLY
SECRET

PAGE 02 KABUL 05277 191046Z

BUT NEVERTHELESS " UNDER INSTRUCTIONS" FROM DAUD. HE SAID MR RPT MR DAUD IS WELL AWARE THAT I HAVE BEEN GREAT FRIEND OF AFGHANISTAN AND THAT HE (DAUD) APPRECIATES THE TACTFUL WAY IN WHICH I HAVE MAINTAINED CONTACT OVER THE YEARS

IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATIONS OPEN.

4. KARIM SAID DAUD WISHED TO BRING TO MY ATTENTION INFORMALLY THE WORRISOME SITUATION OF BROADCASTS AND NEWS REPORTS EMANATING FROM IRAN, PAKISTAN AND ENGLAND WHICH POTENTIALLY COULD PRODUCE GREAT DIFFICULTIES FOR AFGHANISTAN AND ITS NEIGHBORS. THERE ARE ALLEGATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT A NUMBER OF AFGHAN GENERALS HAVE BEEN KILLED. (HE CITED GENERAL ABDUL WALI AND GENERAL GHANI.) SECONDLY, THERE ARE IMPLICATIONS IN THESE BROADCASTS, PARTICULARLY THE BBC, SUGGESTING THAT THE SHAH AND PRESIDENT BHUTTO MIGHT GET TOGETHER TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE ABOUT RECENT EVENTS IN "UNRULY AFGHANISTAN". KARIM ALSO CHARACTERIZED SOME OF RADIO TEHRAN BROADCASTS AS "AN UNFRIENDLY JOKE", WITHOUT FURTHER ELABORATION.

5. HE THEN ASSURED ME THAT NOT ONE GENERAL HAD BEEN KILLED, AND THAT BOTH ABDUL WALI AND MINDEF KHAN MOHAMMAD KHAN WERE ALIVE AND WELL. HE SAID THAT ONLY SOME ORDINARY SOLDIERS HAD BEEN CASUALTIES IN THE BRIEF FIGHTING. KARIM REITERATED THAT COUP WAS STRICTLY AN INTERNAL AFFAIR OF AFGHANISTAN AND THAT THE AFGHAN PEOPLE ARE FULL OF FRIENDSHIP FOR THE IRANIAN PEOPLE BUT THAT THEY WOULD BROOK NO INTERFERENCE IN AFGHAN AFFAIRS FROM ANY OUTSIDERS.

6. I RESPONDED FIRST BY ASKING KARIM WHAT HE WOULD HAVE ME DO ABOUT THESE CONCERNS SINCE WE ARE NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED, ADDING OF COURSE THAT WE WERE CONCERNED WITH WHAT HAPPENING IN AFGHANISTAN AND WITH IMPLICATVONS OF AFGHANISTAN'S RELATIONS WITHIN THE REGION. I SAID I WOULD HAVE EXPECTED HIM TO TAKE THIS UP WITH THE BRITISH AND IRANIAN AMBASSADORS. KARIM REPLIED SIMPLY THAT HE KNEW THAT I AM FRIEND OF AFGHANISTAN AND THAT "WE DON'T SPEAK TO OTHERS LIKE WE DO TO YOU".

7. I THEN EXPRESSED TO KARIM MY PERSONAL VIEW AS AN ACADEMIC ANALYST THAT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ASSURANCES FROM NEW REGIME
SECRET

PAGE 03 KABUL 05277 191046Z

WERE FINE AS FAR AS THEY WENT BUT THAT ACTIONS WERE WHAT REALLY COUNTED. I NOTED THAT THE ONLY FOREIGN COUNTRY MENTIONED IN MR DAUD'S SPEECH WAS PAKISTAN, AND KNOWING MR DAUD'S PREVIOUS PROBLEMS OVER PASHTUNISTAN, IT WOULD BE NATURAL TO EXPECT SOME WORRIES FROM ITS EASTERN NEIGHBOR. I ALSO EXPRESSED MY VIEW THAT SO LONG AS THE COUNTRY IS HERMETICALLY SEALED AND THAT THE NORMAL FLOW OF INFORMATION HAD BEEN CUT OFF, ABNORMAL INFORMATION WOULD NATURALLY GET OUT. I SUGGESTED TO KARIM IF AFGHANISTAN WANTED TO PREVENT ALARMIST NEWS FROM BEING SPREAD THAT THE NORMAL CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION SHOULD BE REOPENED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

8. KARIM EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR MY VIEWS. IN

RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION AS TO HOW THINGS WERE OUTSIDE OF
KABUL, KARIM SAID THAT MR DAUD IS PARTICULARLY PLEASED
THAT THE PASHTUN TRIBES HAVE WELCOMED THE NEW REGIME, WHICH
HE FEELS CAME MORE QUICKLY BECAUSE THE REPLACEMENT
OF THE MONARCHY BY A REPUBLIC DEMONSTRATED TO THE PEOPLE THAT
DAUD WAS NOT MERELY SEEKING TO REPLACE THE KING BECAUSE
OF PERSONAL AMBITION.
NEUMANN

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETINGS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KABUL05277
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750007-1931
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730768/abqcefk.c.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: KABUL 5256
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <19-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status:
Subject: NEW REGIME'S CONCERN WITH NEIGHBORS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AF
To: STATE INFO ISLAMABAD
LONDON
MOSCOW
NEW DELHI
ROME
TEHRAN
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005